

## **AMENDMENT**

### **Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to figure 4B. This sheet, which includes figures 4A and 4B, replaces the original sheet. In figure 4B, one of the two occurrences of reference numeral 48 has been corrected to be 49.

### ***REMARKS***

Claims 1-23 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

### ***Drawings***

By the present amendment, a reference numeral has been corrected in figure 4B to illustrate query result 49 that is processed at 47 so as to eliminate the Examiner's objections. No new matter has been added.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §101***

All the claims were rejected as allegedly failing to produce a tangible result. While Applicants respectfully submit that task results are a tangible result, the claims have been amended as suggested by the Examiner in order to clearly place the case in condition for allowance.

### ***Conclusion***

For the reasons stated above, Applicants submit that the application and claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests withdrawal of all of the rejections. If there remain any issues that may be disposed of via a telephonic interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the local exchange given below.

Respectfully,



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Enclosures (Appendix with 2 sheets)

App. No. 09/881,234  
ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

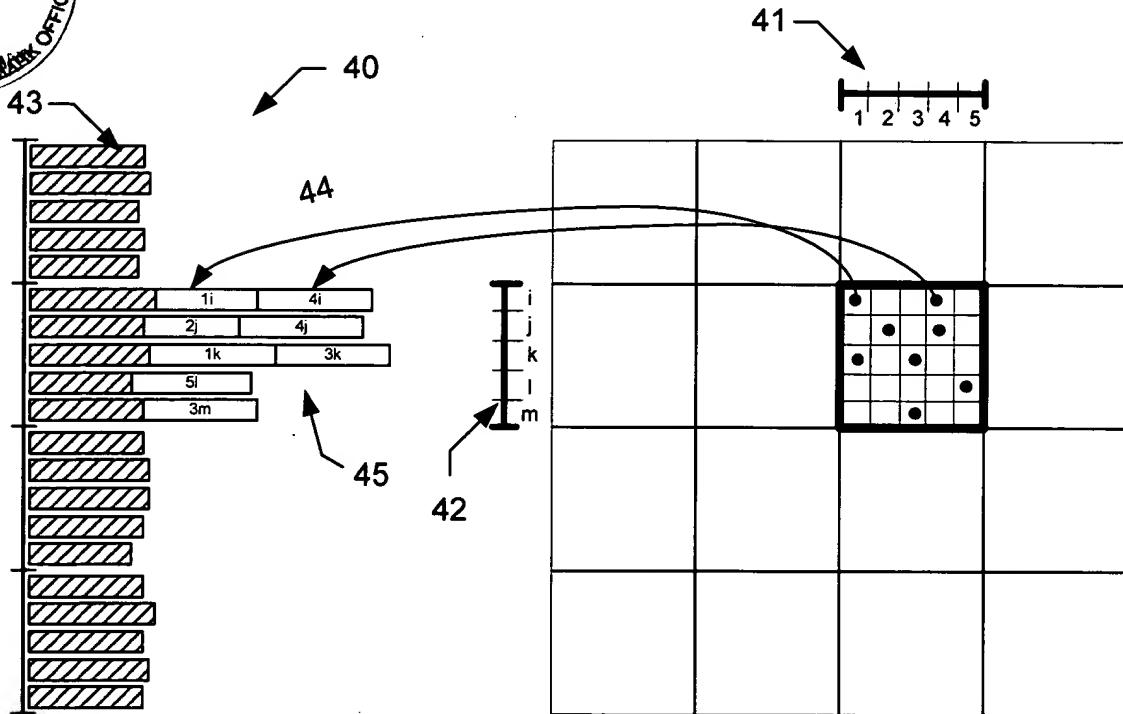


FIGURE 4A

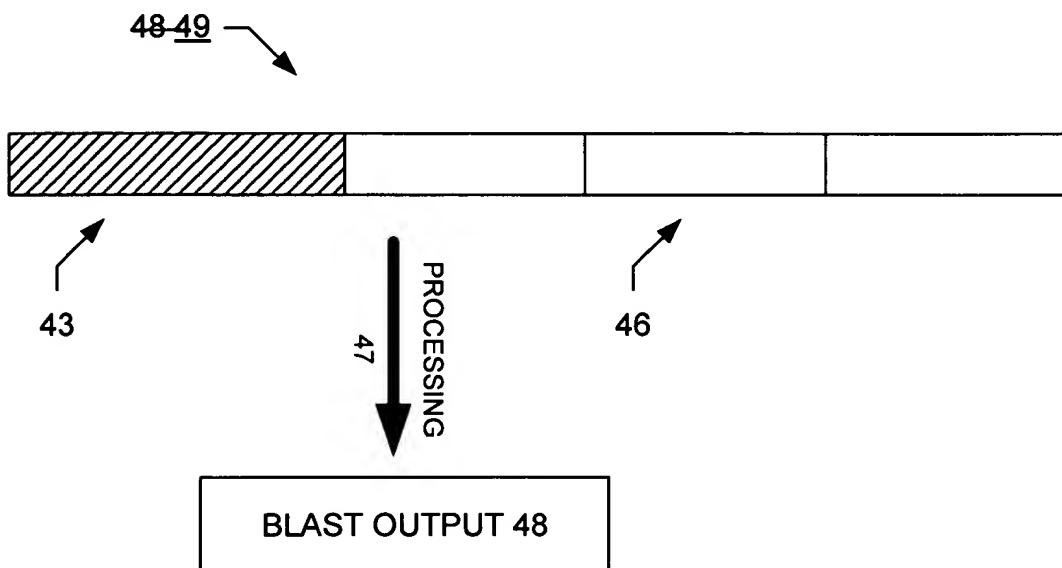


FIGURE 4B